

## Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 EUR-12 H-01 INR-07 IO-13

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SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L MBFR VIENNA 0543

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: OCTOBER 27 EASTERN PLENARY STATEMENT

AT THE 150TH PLENARY MEETING OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH WAS HELD ON OCTOBER 27 UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF FRG REP (BEHREND), BULGARIAN REP (DICHEV) DELIVERED THE ONLY STATEMENT. IN HIS PRESENTATION, WHICH INCLUDED A BRIEF REFERENCE TO THE EAST'S NEW PROPOSAL ON DATA EXCHANGE, DICHEV CRITICIZED WESTERN UNWILLINGNESS TO AGREE TO AN IMMEDIATE COMMITMENT BY ALL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS NOT TO INCREASE THEIR MILITARY MANPOWER IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS FOR THE DURATION OF THE TALKS. DICHEV ALSO CRITICIZED THE ANNOUNCED US INTENTION TO INCREASE AMERICAN FORCE LEVELS IN EUROPE AND ALLEGED PLANS TO INTRODUCE THE NEUTRON WARHEAD AND CRUISE MISSILES INTO THE AREA. THE MAIN POINTS OF THE BULGARIAN STATEMENT WERE:

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STATEMENT, THE FULL TEXT OF WHICH FOLLOWS BY AIRGRAM, WERE:

1. THE REASON FOR THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN THESE TALKS AFTER FOUR YEARS OF NEGOTIATIONS IS THE STUBBORN INSISTENCE OF THE NATO PARTICIPANTS ON SEEKING UNILATERAL MILITARY ADVANTAGES.
2. THE WEST HAS ATTACKED THE EASTERN PROPOSALS FOR EQUAL NUMBER

OR EQUAL PERCENTAGE REDUCTIONS BUT HAS NOT PRESENTED ANY CONSTRUCTIVE ALTERNATIVES.

3. THE EAST HAS MADE AT LEAST FOUR COMPROMISE PROPOSALS SINCE THE TALKS BEGAN WHICH TOOK ACCOUNT OF SUBSTANTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE WESTERN POSITION WHILE THE WEST HAS PROPOSED ONLY ONE POSITIVE STEP BUT LINKED THAT STEP TO THE OVERALL NATO POSITION IN THE TALKS.

4. THE WEST IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN THE DATA DISCUSSION SINCE IT HAS NOT ACCEPTED THE EXISTENCE OF APPROXIMATE EQUALITY IN THE NUMERICAL STRENGTHS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF BOTH BLOCS.

5. THE EXCEPTIONALLY IMPORTANT PRACTICAL MEANING OF THE LAST EASTERN INITIATIVE FOR THE FURTHER CONDUCT OF THE DATA DISCUSSION SHOULD BE UNDERLINED.

6. SINCE THE REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IS TOO COMPLICATED TO RESOLVE IN ONE STEP, THE EASTERN PARTICIPANTS THREE YEARS AGO INTRODUCED A COMPROMISE PROPOSAL FOR AN IMMEDIATE COMMITMENT BY ALL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS NOT TO INCREASE THE NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF THEIR ARMED FORCES IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS PENDING SIGNATURE OF A FIRST AGREEMENT.

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7. ADOPTION OF SUCH A PROPOSAL, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT STATEMENTS BY WESTERN LEADERS THAT THEIR COUNTRIES DID NOT INTEND TO INCREASE THEIR FORCES, AS A MUTUAL DECLARATION WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO MILITARY DYPWG #####READING A FIRST AGREEMENT ON REDUCTIONS.

8. THE EXCHANGE OF DATA CREATED FAVORABLE CONDITIONS FOR A FREEZE SINCE THE WEST CAN NO LONGER CLAIM THAT THE LEVEL OF THAT FREEZE WOULD BE UNKNOWN OR THAT IT WOULD CONTRACTUALIZE EASTERN NUMERICAL SUPERIORITY.

9. WHILE REJECTING THE FREEZE, WESTERN PARTICIPANTS HAVE BEEN INCREASING THEIR MILITARY STRENGTH IN CENTRAL EUROPE AS IS EVIDENCED BY THE US ANNOUNCEMENT OF A PLANNED INCREASE IN AMERICAN FORCE LEVELS IN EUROPE.

10. ADDITIONALLY, WESTERN PLANS TO INTRODUCE THE NEUTRON BOMB AND CRUISE MISSILES INTO EUROPE, TOGETHER WITH OTHER NATO FORCE INCREASES, DIVERGE FROM THE AIMS OF THE CSCE AGREEMENT AND CREATE OBSTACLES IN THE PATH OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

11. EASTERN PARTICIPANTS HAVE NOT INCREASED THE  
COMBAT NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF THEIR ARMED FORCES IN  
CENTRAL EUROPE FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS.

12. THE WEST ALSO CLAIMS TO FAVOR A FREEZE BUT THIS  
FREEZE IS DEPENDENT UPON EASTERN ACCEPTANCE OF THE  
WEST'S ONE-SIDED REDUCTION APPROACH.

13. IF, AFTER A FREEZE, IT EMERGES THAT ONE SIDE HAD  
MORE FORCES THAN IT HAD STATED, THEN THIS WOULD SIGNIFY  
VIOLATION OF THE MUTUAL AGREEMENT WITH ALL THE CONSEQUENCES  
THAT THAT WOULD ENTAIL.

14. A FREEZE IS A USEFUL STEP ON THE WAY TO REDUCTIONS  
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WHICH WOULD NOT PREJUDICE THE BASIC POSITION OF EITHER  
SIDE, BUT WOULD BE A CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE AND  
SECURITY.RESOR

NOTE BY OCT: #####OMISSION. AS RECEIVED.

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